

EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS PLAN

1. Purpose. To establish a minimum communications network which will adequately support and be immediately available to the Wing and Task Force Commanders during an emergency condition.

2. Scope. This plan pertains to the establishment of all radio communications for all units of the California Wing during actual or official training emergency conditions.

3. Plan Requirements. Each Group and Squadron must publish and maintain an Emergency Communications Plan based on the requirements of this plan. All plans must support the plan of the next higher headquarters. Upon completion, forward Squadron plans to Group. Forward Group and Detached Squadron consolidated plans to this headquarters, ATTN: DC, to arrive not later than 31 March.

4. Task Force Organization. There are six CAP Emergency Service Task Force Areas, abbreviated CAPESTFA, whose boundaries coincide with the six California State Office of Emergency Services (OES) Mutual Aid Regions They are:

- a) **CAPESTFA I:** Counties of Los Angeles, Orange, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, and Ventura.
- b) **CAPESTFA II:** Counties of Alameda, Contra Costa, Del Norte, Humboldt, Lake, Marin, Mendocino, Monterey, Napa, San Benito, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Cruz, Santa Clara, Solano, and Sonoma.
- c) **CAPESTFA III:** Counties of Butte, Colusa, Glenn, Lassen, Modoc, Plumas, Shasta, Sierra, Siskiyou, Sutter, Tehama, and Trinity.
- d) **CAPESTFA IV:** Counties of Alpine, Amador, Calaveras, El Dorado, Nevada, Placer, Sacramento, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Tuolumne, Yolo, and Yuba.
- e) **CAPESTFA V:** Counties of Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Mariposa, Merced, and Tulare.
- f) **CAPESTFA VI:** Counties of Imperial, Inyo, Mono, Riverside, San Bernardino, and San Diego.

5. Network Organization. The following stations will comprise the Emergency Service Task Force Wing net:

- a) Wing Net Control Station, and the listed CAPESTFA stations.
- b) Wing Commander – Yosemite 1
- c) Wing Deputy Commander – Yosemite 2
- d) Wing Chief of Staff – Yosemite 3
- e) Wing Director of Communications – Yosemite 4
- f) Wing Director of Operations – Yosemite 7, will monitor and assist as needed.
- g) The stations assigned to the CAP Emergency Task Force Areas are as follows:

1) CAPESTFA I

NCS	Yosemite	101	Pacoima	South
ANCS	Yosemite	89	Atascadero	North
ANCS	Yosemite	68	Templeton	North
ANCS	Yosemite	44	Goleta	Central
ANCS	Yosemite	437	Lancaster	Central
ANCS	Yosemite	199	Pacoima	South

2) CAPESTFA II

NCS	Yosemite	544	Concord	Central
ANCS	Yosemite		San Francisco	Central
ANCS	Yosemite	670	Monterey	South
ANCS	Yosemite	713	Santa Cruz	South
ANCS	Yosemite	206	Ukiah (VHF)	North

3) CAPESTFA III

NCS	Yosemite	557	Redding	North
ANCS	Yosemite	624	Grass Valley	South
X-Co.	Yosemite	330	Redding	OES

4) CAPESTFA IV

NCS	Yosemite	20	Benicia	East
ANCS	Yosemite	684	MiWuk Village	East
ANCS	Yosemite	211	Travis AFB	West
X-Co.	Yosemite	30	Sacramento	OES

5) CAPESTFA V

NCS	Yosemite	555	Fresno	North
ANCS	Yosemite	23	Ridgecrest	East
ANCS	Yosemite	51	Bakersfield	Central
ANCS	Yosemite	321	Bakersfield	Central
ANCS	Yosemite	89	Atascadero	North
X-Co.	Yosemite	530	Fresno	OES

6) CAPESTFA VI

NCS	Yosemite	26	Fontana	Central
ANCS	Yosemite	550	Carlsbad	South
ANCS	Yosemite	217	Solana Beach	South
X-Co.	Yosemite	630	Ontario	OES

6. General Situation. The above organization provides a communications capability to key locations throughout the State with a limited number of stations on the air during the initial period. It can be activated State wide or selectively in a Task Force Area. This organization is subject to change or expansion at such times as frequency and/or traffic conditions permit. Upon activation of this net, the Task Force Area NCS only will answer; if the NCS does not acknowledge, the first listed ANCS will respond, etc. In the event neither NCS nor ANCS's of a Task Force Area answer the Roll call, the Group in that area will be called. If the Group does not answer, then units will be called. All other stations not called will monitor the net for instructions and copy all radio traffic applicable to their unit.

7. Implementation.

a) **Mission.** Task Force Area stations will be alerted by radio or other means as quickly as possible and the emergency Services net will be activated immediately. It shall be the primary responsibility of the Wing Net Control Station, or alternate, to assure delivery of all traffic to all Task Force Commanders. Each CAPESTFA NCS shall be responsible for delivery of all traffic to assigned units.

b) **Continuing Goals.** Emergency Services Task Force (ESTF) Commanders and Group Communications officers will receive mission-oriented goals and objectives as part of the task force/ground unit's continuing training. An example of such a goal would be providing an emergency radio relay site. The objectives would be: locating the site, securing necessary permissions, and gathering equipment.

8. Execution:

a) **Emergency Services Task Force (ESTF) Net operations.** This is a directed net on 4.5850 kHz Upper Side Band (alternate 4.5820 kHz USB) and is activated at any time there is a notice of an emergency operation. NCS to NCS coordination will be accomplished on 4.5820 kHz USB after initial net has been established. Use of this frequency, will be controlled by the Wing NCS, or alternate, as designated upon net activation.

b) **Frequency Utilization.** Upon activation of the ESTF Net, Group and units will use VHF-FM and 26.620 MHz and leave HF frequencies as clear as possible. Aircraft operating in overlap areas will be assigned discrete frequencies to operate on. Remember, on all frequencies and at all times, this is a DIRECTED NET. See Paragraph 10 of the Operations and Training Plan in this Communications Plan.

c) **Group and Unit Communications Plans.** These plans become operational with the activation of the ESTF Net. Copies of all Group consolidated communications plans MUST be on file with this Headquarters, ATTN: DC.

d) **Auxiliary Power.** All stations will review safety instructions and ensure readiness of their auxiliary power facilities for immediate use.

e) **Back-up Power.** Available and ready to use.

f) **Ground to Air units.** Will be alerted and placed on stand-by basis.

9. Communications Security. During normal Missing Aircraft Missions, the mentioning of sighting of wreckage and the presence or absence of survivors shall not occur on the radio until the same has been confirmed for release by the Incident Commander. To relate this information to the Mission Base from the field, the Air Force ARRS "Echo Code" shall be utilized. There are four "Echo Code" conditions, which can be suffixed by the number of personnel in that category. The procedure is:

THIS IS AN ECHO MESSAGE:

ALPHA	-	Negative injuries
BRAVO	-	Minor injuries, need medical attention
CHARLIE	-	Serious injuries, need immediate hospitalization

DELTA - Deceased

Aircraft directing ground units to a site shall use aircraft frequencies or VHF-FM simplex for communications, NOT the repeater.

10. Mission Base Communications Station:

a) **Circuit Status.** The Communications Officer at each mission base shall maintain a status board of the circuits (frequencies) available at the base. The status board shall show the name/frequency of the circuit, base call sign and circuit condition. The status board shall also show the base phone number.

b) **Mobile Unit Status.** The Communications officer at each mission base shall, in coordination with the Air Operations, Ground Operations, and Personnel (sign-in) officer, help maintain the status board of radio equipped aircraft and ground units operating under control of the base. The status board shall indicate call sign, operating frequency, pilot/officer in command, time of departure, estimated time of return, and area of assignment.

c) **Qualified Operators.** The Communications Officer at each mission base will verify that all radio operators have a valid CAP Form 76 (Aug 1996) in their possession when operating a CAP radio.

d) **Civil Defense (EMA) Liaison Prior to a Mission.** Under provision of the master Memorandum of Understanding between California Wing CAP and the California State Office of Emergency Services, the Group/Task Force/Mission Base Communications Officer shall have established liaison with his local Civil Defense (Emergency Services, Emergency Management Agency) counterpart.

e) **Civil Defense EOC Liaison.** When involved with a mission requiring coordination control with a Civil Defense EOC, the mission base Communications Officer will ensure that there is a direct radio link between the mission base and the EOC. The mission base Communications Officer should also have a list of the locations and operating frequencies of the EOC's in the area.

f) **Telephone Company Liaison.** The Communications Officer at each mission base should have the name and telephone numbers of the official contact at the local telephone company with responsibility for installation of emergency telephone equipment at the base.

g) **Recall.** The mission base Communications Officer, in coordination with the Briefing officer, shall ensure that all radio-equipped forces dispatched from the base are aware of the frequency and times of broadcast of any recall message.

11. Command. This plan supersedes all previous Emergency Comm Plans or instructions issued by California Wing, CAP, prior to this date. All units are to advise this headquarters, ATTN: DC, of any factors which may limit or prevent execution of this plan as written, as well as any items in which the level and/or type of coordination needs to be pre-defined to maximize efficient operation.

